Reduction in duration of Rail Journeys

1502. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for reduction of duration of journeys by various trains running between New Delhi and various stations in Maharashtra is pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the present status of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Increasing the frequency of New Delhi-Chennai Rajdhani Express

1503. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rajdhani Express between New Delhi-Hazrat Nizamuddin and Chennai Central has become very popular;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to increase the frequency of this train to atleast five days a week, to make it more attractive; and

(c) what steps are being taken to reduce the present travelling time to atleast 24 hours, so that it becomes more confortable for passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) and (b) Occuption of 2433/2434 Nizamuddin-Chennai Rajdhani Express does not justify an increase in its frequency.

(c) Reduction of travel time for 2433/2434 Nizamuddin-Chennai Rajdhani Express between Nizamuddin and Chennai is not presently feasible.